



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, November 28, 2020

Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website, the Passaic County Facebook page, distributed through the Constant Contact email group for families who have elected to provide their email address and is distributed to all staff. Our Social Workers and Therapeutic Recreation staff distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it.

On November 25, 2020, 346 staff in addition to 11 physicians/medical personnel were tested. As of this Update, results have been received for all staff and physicians/medical personnel except 10 staff and one physician. Two staff with inconclusive results are in the process of being retested. Positive test results were received for seven staff who were tested on-site. In addition, one staff who tested off-site received a positive result. The staff who tested positive include two nurses, three CNAs, two Dietary staff and one support staff. The nursing staff who tested positive worked on resident units 1-400, 2-400 excluding the vent unit, 1-300 and 3-400 on the "D" side. Nursing management staff informed the residents and the designated representatives for the residents who received care from the CNAs and nurses. Nursing staff will continue each shift to monitor all residents for any change in condition or symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Effective November 27, 2020, resident units 1-400, 2-400 (excluding the vent unit) and the 3-400 "D" section were added to the units on quarantine status. In addition, the residents on unit 1-300 who were exposed to the nursing staff who tested positive were placed on transmission-based precautions. Please note:

- 1-200 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation is suspended until 12/2. Outdoor visitation is suspended only for the specific residents who were placed on transmission-based precautions until 12/2.
- 2-200 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation is suspended until 12/2. Outdoor visitation is suspended only for the specific residents who were placed on transmission-based precautions until 12/2.
- 3-200 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation are suspended until 12/2.
- 1-300 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation is suspended until 12/9. Outdoor visitation is suspended only for the specific residents who were placed on transmission-based precautions until 12/9.
- 2-300 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation is suspended until 12/2. Outdoor visitation is suspended until 12/2.

- 1-400: Indoor essential caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation are suspended until 12/9.
- 2-400 resident unit excluding the vent unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation are suspended until 12/9.
- 2-400 vent unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation is suspended until 12/9.
- 3-400 resident unit: Indoor essential caregiver visitation and outdoor visitation are suspended until 12/9.

When the last Update was written, results were pending from the weekly testing of residents on November 16 through November 19, 2020. The results received were negative. Residents were tested on November 23 through November 26. 149 results are pending. Currently, there aren't any residents who are positive for COVID-19 in our Home.

On November 25, 2020, representatives from the NJ Department of Health reviewed during a webinar with senior living healthcare providers the details of its "Long-term Care Testing Regimen Pilot Program" that was delayed and now has an anticipated time period of November 30 through December 14, 2020. Under this Program, all staff, visitors (which in our case are Essential Caregivers or Compassionate Care Visitors), non-employees who come to provide services (such as physicians, lab personnel) and residents who leave and return to the facility (such as residents who go to a physician's appointment, dialysis, emergency room visit) must be tested with a "point of care" nasal swab antigen test on the day the person is in the facility. "All staff" include staff who have previously tested positive and are COVID-recovered and staff who have tested negative. Staff must be tested during the shift the employee is working. The testing frequency is every other day beginning on the effective date. Antigen test results will be available shortly after the test. Staff who receive a positive result from the antigen test must be retested with a PCR test (saliva) and wait at home for the result. Non-employees and visitors who receive a positive result will not be permitted to enter. There isn't a fee for the tests. As of this writing, written details are still pending from the Department of Health.

Please note --- there will not be any change to the weekly testing of residents.

This week, two of our residents passed away. Preakness has been the home to our 77 year old resident since October 1994. She has experienced with us the many changes in long-term care during her 26 years at Preakness. She is one of our residents who lived in Building One in Haledon before our construction and consolidation to our Home in Wayne and her move to the 1-300 unit. It is hard to imagine Preakness without her. In addition, one of our residents on unit 1-400 who passed away was our former colleague for 12 years when she worked as a C NA lovingly taking care of many residents. At this time of Thanksgiving, we are saddened by their passing, but grateful for the life experiences we have shared with them. We offer our condolences to their families and co-residents and thank our staff for the many years of compassionately taking care of our residents and our colleague.

Thank you to the Dietary staff for the preparation of our delicious Thanksgiving meal.

If you have an urgent call or complaint, please call Preakness Healthcare Center Security staff at 973-317-7023 and your call will be directed to the appropriate person.

If you have questions related to Infection Prevention, please call Cristina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181.

Please call 973-585-2145 to speak with Lisandro Perez, Jr to schedule an outdoor visit or if your role as an Essential Caregiver has been approved, to schedule an indoor Essential Caregiver visit. Outdoor visits are weather-permitting. As written in this Update, visitation is in accordance with quarantine and transmission-based precautions.

Virtual visits may be arranged by calling Alina Zalenski, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at 973-585-2124 or Lee Livingston, Senior Recreation Therapist at 973-585-2163. If there is a request for hair salon services, you may direct the request to Ms. Zalenski or Ms. Livingston.

Passaic County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing at home and at mobile sites for Passaic County residents. Please see the Passaic County website (passaiccountynj.org) for the details.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff and the sacrifices they make and the continued support we receive during these challenging and emotional times. ***Preakness Strong Heroes Continue to Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director